

Evening Ledger

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PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1916.

My mind to me a kingdom is;
Such present joys therein I find,
That it excels all other bliss
That earth affords or groves or kind.
—Edward Dyer.

THE CITY SHALL NOT BE HOBBLED

The so-called Twining plan is really the Mayor's plan. The Director of City Transit all has been absent of important powers exercised by his predecessor.

The time has come for citizens of Philadelphia to understand a few things. They have been up against bunco games before and on more than one occasion they have seen their valuable franchises handed over to private persons.

We charge that the sudden effort to make it appear that a subway under City Hall is a dangerous and unfeasible undertaking is a conspiracy pure and simple.

What a mockery the work of the commission has been! These men consider for a few days plans which it had taken months to formulate.

The reason is this: The so-called Twining plan is not the Twining plan at all. The purpose not to have the station under City Hall was not Mr. Twining's purpose at all.

Even those who would like to throw bricks at the President will admit the propriety of sending a bouquet of one hundred American Beauty roses to his newest grandchild.

Kill the Taylor plan, down with preparedness, knuckle down to Germany, drop the Philippines, conquer Mexico—what a lovely program for patriotic and unselfish Americans!

The late J. P. Morgan's remark that he loaned money on character rather than on property was brought up in court the other day and was corroborated by the testimony of J. B. Forgan, a Western banker.

Bacteriologists may be right when they say it is impossible for laymen to get possession of the germs of typhoid and diphtheria; but when one considers the conduct of public men in Washington it is impossible to escape the conclusion that the germ of the yellow streak has been administered quite generally.

The exertions of the Crown Prince and around Verdun are perceptibly slackening in certain places, and are going through a process of concentration; the defenses are filling in; diversions elsewhere in France and in Russia are piling up.

matters of vital moment to the community, being bound hand and foot, and that the intervention of the Mayor is stifling the efficiency of the department.

It may be that Mr. McNichol, in order to get out of the contract under City Hall, will throw his political support in this fight to the Mayor and the Vares, for he stands to face a big loss; but we venture to suggest to him and to the Councilmen whom he controls that in this matter the citizens are aroused and they will not tolerate betrayal of their interests.

The effrontery of the substitute proposals is colossal. The Mayor and the clique behind him dare to come forward and propose the overruling of the ballot and the Public Service Commission. They dare to talk about not doing what the people have already voted they should do.

As a brief for obstructionism and pessimism, the Twining report is an excellent document. It depicts of the growth of Philadelphia, although almost at the proposed Darby terminal there have been added within the last few months enough thousands of skilled workmen to support a population of about 200,000.

We have, in truth, a Jeremiah among us. There was doubt among a great many people at one time, we believe, as to whether horse cars would pay.

But we may be sure of one thing. The ace in the hole which the city holds is the Chestnut street subway, and the substitute plan sticks a knife hilt-deep in that.

CONTESTANT asks if each individual may submit more than one anagram. Of course; the more the merrier. But this sort of thing won't get anybody anywhere.

DR. PERCY H. EALER at 21st and Spring Garden streets? T. D. You may, if the doc. doesn't mind the notoriety.

THE NEW INDOOR SPORT
SHE—I cannot tell you how much fun we get out of the E. L. editorial page. What ails your chest? Oh, pull it in! You haven't anything to do with this joy of ours.

Secretary Baker insists that the Mexican situation is "satisfactory." The significance of this estimate depends on who is satisfied.

The Mayor is in favor of cultivating the vacant lots. The advocates of real rapid transit are in favor of covering them with houses.

Evangelist Biederwolf doubts whether there is fire in hell. The Rev. William A. Sunday should devote a special campaign to this rival and "learn him."

There is nothing especially remarkable in the story of the professional gambler in the British army who won the Victoria Cross. Professional gamblers always win.

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WHO said castles in Spain? I saw something better than that," writes T. C., "on the outskirts of Chester. Here's the sign: FOR SALE. This splendid view will divide into building lots or sell as a whole. TAYLOR. Cambridge Trust Building.

Tom Daly's Column

BEFORE us is a yellow journal, but the yellow is merely a concomitant of age. It is the United States Gazette of December 28, 1807. The big piece of news in it—not uninteresting in this day either—is this "special message of the President":

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States: The communication now made, showing the great and increasing dangers with which our vessels, our seamen and merchandise are threatened on the high seas and elsewhere, by the belligerent Powers of Europe, and it being of the greatest importance to keep in safety their essential resources I deem it my duty to recommend the subject to the consideration of Congress, who will doubtless perceive all the advantages which may be expected from an inhibition of the departure of our vessels from the ports of the United States.

TH. JEFFERSON. We believe that this Th. Jefferson is the red-headed firebrand who wrote the Declaration of Indep.

Musical Triolets (Most of them Knock-turns.) It may be that Rap— Fold's a charming soprano. I'll concede you, old chap. It may be that Rap— Fold at times does not yap. When she should sing piano. It may be that Rap— Fold's a charming soprano. Die Hexe.

THE young man sat at the lunch counter, dawdling over his food. He took out his watch and looked admiringly at a photograph pasted in the case. We rubbed over his shoulder. It was the picture of a baby at the just-beginning-to-talk age. He put the watch away and sat looking far into space unseeing. The waitress "can I get anything else?" disturbed but didn't quite far him out of his dream. "Dimme a jinky water, please," he prattled.

GOES HUNT FOR VILLA. John J. Mealey, Macktnus. And here are yesterday's answers: War is Hell, Mike—Kaiser Wilhelm. In Slow—Wilson. Vote Loser—Roosevelt.

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CAN'T GET FAR



A MISCELLANY OF "HOWLERS"

Wild Shots of the Embattled Schoolboy—An Exhibit of Results—A Suggestion for Turning the Tables on the Grown-ups

AS IT IS with sermons, so with collections of "howlers." "It's a mighty poor sermon," said John Gardener to the minister, "that doesn't hit me somewhere."

On a previous occasion we essayed a definition of the term "howler," but the effort was a failure, and we are, therefore, falling back on a few illustrations, which, possibly, may hit some reader somewhere.

Curious History
Lingering yet a little we may learn from the embattled schoolboy much else that's interesting, whether true or not. For example: "The three most important feudal dues were Friendship, Courtship and Marriages."

Seriously Speaking
Seriously speaking, we approve the idea of compelling parents to pass the examination recently given to assistants at the Chicago Public Library. If you can answer the ten questions intelligently, if not correctly, you may escape the disgrace of being put back in the awkward squad of the hopelessly grown-up.

A POOL FOR ATTORNEY
A Kentucky negro, tried on two charges, acted as his own lawyer. After the jury heard his first speech it acquitted him. But his second speech brought a fine of \$50. This shows that the old axiom needs revising. The man who continues to act as his own pleader has a fool for an attorney.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A ROSY VIEW
Doctor Elliot, of Harvard, figures that Americans spend more than \$5,000,000 a year on non-essentials. That, however, is one of the privileges of being an American.—Detroit Free Press.

A KINDLY SENTIMENT
The following "reluctant tribute" to the heroism of German soldiers, by O. C. A. Child, published in the New York World, deserves a place among the "kindly sentiments" that the war has evoked: "I cannot help but love the way in which the gallant Germans pay The price in blood. They heed no cost in death or pain If by their valor they may gain A foot of ground. Each soldier sets his steady face, And dies content if but his place In front be found. With all my heart I hope defeat May trip at last their charging feet, May break their blades. And yet I break a silent toast To that striking, mighty host— The Unbeaten."

THE TONGUE-TWISTED PEDAGOG
But why pick on the poor schoolboy? He has troubles enough of his own. And he isn't the only unconscious or unobtrusive perpetrator of "howlers."

What Do You Know?

Queries of general interest will be answered in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

QUIZ

- 1. When was the last battle fought on the soil of Great Britain?
2. What was the fair selling price of the total property of the United States at the beginning of the 20th century?
3. What is an oratorio?
4. Who discovered the law of specific gravity?
5. What is the highest monument in the world?
6. What was a "Mogul"?
7. Who is in command of the expeditionary force in Mexico?
8. Did the New York Yankees ever win a world series?
9. From what State does Senator Fall come?
10. Who is the author of "Snowbound"?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. She was born May 5, 1826, and is therefore 90 years old.
2. Near-ightedness.
3. Because they were written on blue paper.
4. Harvard, William and Mary and Yale, in the order named.
5. Money decreed by the Government to be a legal and proper means of payment of any and all debts.
6. No. The authority for such an act is vested in Congress.
7. A blue flag with the United States arms in the center. It was designed and first used by President Arthur in 1883.
8. R. G. Ingersoll, at Republican National Convention in Cincinnati in 1876, so referred to as James G. Blaine.
9. Famous military academy of England.
10. Niagara Falls, Yellowstone Park.

Philadelphia Distances

Editor of "What Do You Know"—Will you please answer these questions: (1) How far is it from City Hall to the following places, in miles: Market street ferry, Snyder avenue, 48th street, Erie avenue? (2) What is the Red Rose of Lancaster? (3) Where are Panama hats made?

Shrimps
Editor of "What Do You Know"—Where do shrimps come from? M. A. H. The common shrimp, a 10-footed salt-water crustacean about two inches long, is common on both shores of the North Atlantic Ocean, where the bottom is sandy. The catch of the fisheries on the southern Atlantic coast of the United States is valued at \$500,000 a year. Shrimps are also found in San Francisco Bay.

Old Newspapers
Editor of "What Do You Know"—Can you tell me where I can consult some of the old files of newspapers, particularly some of those no longer in print? RESEARCH. Your question is a bit indefinite. The Mercantile Library and the Apprentices' Library of this city, have files of some of the Philadelphia papers. The best place, of course, is the Library of Congress. The New York Public Library has a very good collection. The Wilmington (Del.) Institute Free Library had a good collection some years ago, and in the New Haven (Conn.) Free Library are some valuable bound files.

American Addition
Editor of "What Do You Know"—Who was the American Addition? I would be obliged for any facts you may have concerning him. S. G. V. This was a name applied to Joseph Dennis, an English essayist, who settled in Philadelphia in the early years of the last century. He established a sort of salon, or way of being, the Doctor Johnson of the intellectual circle of the young republic, strange as this may seem, he is virtually forgotten. Philadelphia was the literary centre of the country at the time, and also the centre of publication. Dennis was the editor of The Portfolio and Literary Repository, for which many distinguished men wrote. John Quincy Adams contributed translations from the Latin, and also the narration of his experiences as the first American Minister to Russia, to the Portfolio.

Cost of Roadmaking
Editor of "What Do You Know"—Please tell me what the average cost is per mile in roadmaking in the United States. MACADAM. A writer of a recent article on American roads estimated that it cost \$3000 per mile for building American roads. He took the average of some of the expensive speedways and of the long country roads, as well as of durable roads in communities which insist on full value for their appropriations.